

OSWEGO LAKE WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, September 15, 2017

The *vision* of the Oswego Lake Watershed Council is a healthy properly functioning watershed. This vision is of streams, wetlands, riparian forests, upland forests/trees, Oswego Lake, and other natural resources working together as a sustainable ecological system that supports good water quality, productive habitat for native plant and animal communities, and enhanced quality of life.

The *mission* of the Oswego Lake Watershed Council is to foster stewardship, education, participation, and financial support for the purpose of the conservation, restoration, enhancement, and maintenance of watershed functions that achieve and sustain a healthy watershed.

1. Welcome and Introductions: Rob Amsberry, Jim and Barbara Fisher, Mike Buck, Mary Ratcliff, Chair Stephanie Wagner, Larry Zucker, Zsolt Leholzky, and Mark Rosenkrantz. Our Project Manager, Patrick Blanchard was in attendance. The Board welcomed a guest, Sarah Ellison, from Hallinan Wood Ad Hoc Committee.

2. Operations:

- **Minutes:** August 11, 2017 minutes were unanimously accepted as presented.
- **Financial Report:** Tom was absent from this meeting so no financial report was given. Stephanie stated she worked with Tom on how to organize the books and budget.

3. Reports

- **Staff Report:** Patrick reminded the Board of the planting project at Brighton HOA on September 30th. This work cannot be delayed since OWEB will not grant an extension on their original time line. Patrick will get this up on our website and also has contacted MeetUp website to encourage and facilitate volunteers signing up. The native plants for this project were procured from Beaver Lake Nursery and Patrick will have mulch on site to top-dress the plants. Irrigation is available in this area.

In an update on the Park Academy site, Patrick said that the Principal, Craig Lowery, wanted specific language inserted in the landowner agreement concerning the extended scope of the contract. This signed agreement will then go to Sonja at the City. Patrick, Rob and Stephanie have a meeting set with her on Monday September 18th. The City will be asking and we will be responding regarding any procedural documentation for accountability.

Patrick said that Zsolt has three new projects or ideas at Tanglewood. The perennial problems of plugged culverts, flash water flows that extend over pathways, incised stream corridors and resulting sedimentation in the streams were all quickly witnessed by Zsolt after he arrived on the job. He would like to make some headway to reduce these negative impacts on the Mountain Park slopes. He also would like to have bridges replacing the culverts currently in the tributaries and to pull back some of the banks with a wider flood plain footprint in some of these

corridors. Stephanie thought we could look at OWEB, whose new cap level for grants is at \$15,000, for helping on one, two or even three of these project sites. Mountain Park's own labor and costs could be matched with the grant amount. Stephanie will review the grant specifics to ascertain whether criteria will be met but she thought stream integrity goals would favor well.

After board members digressed on possible other project sites, some dealing with HOA's, conversation focused on how to best respond to inquiries regarding homeowner stormwater problems. Everyone recognized the validity of this topic and thought OLWC could help facilitate interested parties' navigation toward solutions on their property through our website. We could list who best deals with these sorts of issues.

Patrick closed the staff report in saying that Nancy Longman wants to work with the Watershed Council in terms of enhancing student life skill development at Lake Oswego High School.

- **State of the Watershed Event:** Since this event has been moved to February, no discussion ensued.

4. New Business

- **Sarah Ellison:** This representative from the Hallinan neighborhood briefed members on efforts by her Ad Hoc Committee to preserve and protect some portions of the Yates property which is undergoing a six lot subdivision development plan. She talked about efforts to have the City purchase a recreational easement on a portion of the development property where liability could be transferred though the HOA would retain ownership. She also would optimally like the City to purchase two or more lots and said that Park Director, Ivan Anderholm, was okay with more acquisition of habitat laden property. Sarah said that her Committee was undertaking a \$15,000-\$25,000 fundraising effort. In terms of City Council support, she said Skip O'Neill would help to prioritize this project among a plenitude of Council goals. Our Watershed Council's helpful role could be provided if donated funds could be channeled through our 501C3 for tax benefit purposes on the part of the donors. The Board questioned Sarah for information on a number of areas: costs for recreation easement; Parks Board interfacing; conservation easement process; funding mechanisms for possible purchase; preferred lots for acquisition; outside grant money opportunities—or lack of them; trade off with Metro involvement. Since this is quasi-judicial issue, the City Attorney has advised City Councilors not to publicly discuss this. One member thought the most judicious thing to do would be to directly approach the owner and get buy-in so he could make this recommendation in the final proposal for development. This would make for less opposition at the DRC. Sarah said that the applicant feels near the end of the lengthy process and does not wish to make substantial changes. Mike wanted to make sure that whatever endorsement or help we provide to the Ad Hoc Committee, we communicate no intent to harm the financial or economic status of the owner. In response to Sarah's request, Mark made a motion to draft a MOU that would be reviewed by the entire Board for approval. It was seconded.

Board unanimously voted for this resolution.

Stephanie will make sure we have a draft before our next meeting.

- **HEF Grant Update:** Covered in the Staff Report above.
- **OWEB Small Grants 2017-2019:** Mentioned in the Staff Report above.
- **Worker's Comp Insurance:** Stephanie is working to get this set up through joining a pool since we have a half-time employee. She is in the final stages of this preparation and stated it will cost about \$1,000 per year.
- **Summer/Fall Social:** Stephanie has graciously agreed to host and Patrick will send out a Google poll for members to mark their best date availability.
- **November Meeting: Due to the Veteran's holiday November 10th, our meeting will be moved to November 17th.**

5. Old Business

- **Safety Procedures Site:** Patrick will submit a draft written on behalf of volunteers so any of us participating in work projects are aware of potential hazards and risks and how best to prevent them.
- **Assessment Forms and Site Maintenance Work Plans:** Patrick said these can get very detailed. He is finishing up HEF grant sites that have overlapped and will be closing off finances and converting them over to maintenance status. He said some replanting and herbicide use may be needed for all sites \$4,000 has been reserved in the budget for these efforts. He is asking all of the Board members to add edits to his site maintenance drafts

6. Announcements: Brighton Work Party Sept 30 9:00am-12:00pm.

7. Meeting Adjourns 9:30am.

Next Meeting: October 13th at 8:00am